

**To:** Rachel Wootton[rwootton@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Butts, Sally[sbutts@blm.gov]; Moore, Nikki[nmoore@blm.gov]; Stouffer, Megan[mastouff@blm.gov]; Brian St George[bstgeorg@blm.gov]  
**From:** Schneckenburger, Chad  
**Sent:** 2017-07-17T13:44:21-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: National Monument Review - Draft Economic Reports - Quick Review  
**Received:** 2017-07-17T13:45:40-04:00  
[Canyons of the Ancients ECON review DRAFT 7 13 17 COSO final edits.docx](#)

Hi Rachel,

Attached please find a copy of the CANM Econ Report with a few minor edits from our staff. Greg Shoop has also reviewed this and concurs with it from the State Director level. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Cheers,  
Chad

On Wed, Jul 12, 2017 at 9:32 AM, Butts, Sally <[sbutts@blm.gov](mailto:sbutts@blm.gov)> wrote:

Hi All,

We have been given the opportunity to do a quick review of the draft Department of Interior economic reports for the eight BLM managed or co-managed National Monuments currently under review. The draft reports are for:

- ☐ Grand Canyon-Parashant
- ☐ Grand Staircase-Escalante
- ☐ Sonoran Desert
- ☐ Ironwood Forest
- ☐ Canyons of the Ancients
- ☐ Carrizo Plain
- ☐ Mojave Trails
- ☐ Vermilion Cliffs

If you would like to provide comments, please compile your state's comments in track changes within the attached reports and provide them on or before **Close of Business**

**Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.** Please email your state's comments to Rachel Wootton ([rwootton@blm.gov](mailto:rwootton@blm.gov)) with a copy to me ([sbutts@blm.gov](mailto:sbutts@blm.gov)) and Nikki Moore ([nmoore@blm.gov](mailto:nmoore@blm.gov)) as soon as you have completed your comments, so that we can get them reviewed by the deadline and submitted back to the Secretary's office. The comments are due back to the Secretary's office by Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.

We have blocked out Tuesday afternoon, July 18, from 4-5pm EST to answer any questions you may have. The conference line and passcode for the meeting are:

☐ Conference Line: (b) (5) CIP

☐ Passcode: (b) (5) CIP

Thank you so much for all the time and energy you and your staff have put in to make sure that we are providing DOI with the information they need. Please contact me with any questions.

Sally

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Sally R. Butts, J.D., Acting Division Chief  
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Chad A. Schneckenburger

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# Canyons of the Ancients

Economic Values and Economic Contributions

*DRAFT*



Canyons of the  
Ancients National  
Monument

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### Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to provide information on the economic values and economic contributions of the activities and resources associated with Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (CANM).<sup>1</sup>

### Background

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument spans 176,370 acres of Federally managed land in Montezuma County, CO, with a small portion extending into Dolores County, CO. It was designated in June 2000 for the purposes of ensuring protection of the area's cultural and natural objects, including the highest known density of archaeological sites in the Nation, as well as natural, geological, and biological resources. In 1985, this area was designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) due to the importance of the resources found there. In late 1990s, beginning with significant discussion of a legislative conservation designation, there was community support for the creation of a National Conservation Area, which ultimately led to the National Monument designation following extensive outreach, public scoping and comment periods, and tribal consultation.

### Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

Location: Montezuma County, Dolores County, CO  
 Managing agency: BLM  
 Adjacent towns: Cahone; Pleasant View; Yellow Jacket; Lewis; Cortez, CO  
 Tribal land: Ute Mountain Reservation  
 Resource Areas:  
☒ Recreation ☒ Energy ☒ Minerals  
☒ Grazing ☐ Timber ☒ Scientific Discovery  
☒ Tribal Cultural

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### Local Economy and Economic Impacts

Montezuma County, with a population of 25,700 people<sup>2</sup>, is home to less than 0.5% of the population of the State of Colorado. In recent years, the county has experienced slightly higher levels of unemployment and lower levels of median household income than the State. The County also has a significantly higher Native American population, with 11.5% of the population being of Native American descent versus less than 1% for the State. The Ute Mountain Reservation is within the County borders.

### Activities and Resources

Information on the economic contributions associated with the activities occurring at Canyon of the Ancients National Monument are provided below.

- **Recreation:** A variety of recreation activities are available at CANM including: dispersed camping, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, biking, OHV riding, and viewing archaeological sites. In addition, the Anasazi Heritage Center, a premiere archaeological museum of the Ancestral Puebloan and other Native cultures of the Four Corners region, is located on the Monument. Visitation in FY16 was about 89,500 visits, which is associated with estimated value added of about \$4.7 million and approximately 80 jobs.
- **Energy:** There is oil, gas, and CO2 production within the Monument.
  - **Coal.** There have been no coal developments in the Monument area.
  - **Oil and gas.** There is oil, gas, and CO2 production within the Monument area. 95% of the production of oil, gas, and CO2 in Montezuma and Dolores counties is from within

<sup>1</sup> The BLM provided data used in this paper.

<sup>2</sup> 2011-2015 ACS, 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

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Monument boundaries. In 2016, there were approximately 111,060 bbls of oil, 436,564,707 mcf of natural gas, and 436,000,237 mcf of CO<sub>2</sub> produced in Montezuma and Dolores counties. These levels of oil and gas production are associated with estimates of about \$X in value added and Y jobs.

- There are 9 past-producing uranium/vanadium mines within the Monument boundaries that are no longer in operation.
- **Non-fuel minerals.**
  - There are little to no mineral resources within CANM and no records available for locatable mineral production.
- **Timber.** There is no commercial timber production in CANM either before or after the Monument designation, although the Monument allows for continued firewood cutting.
- **Grazing.** There are currently 23 existing grazing allotments with a total of about 6,800 permitted Animal Unit Month (AUMs)<sup>3</sup>. There has been an average of approximately 4,300 billed per year since the Monument was designated. Those AUMs were associated with economic output of about \$1.6 million and supported about 23 jobs. The Monument proclamation allows for the continuation of all pre-designation grazing activities.
- **Tribal cultural, archeological, and historic resources.** The CANM area is central to the historic and prehistoric territories of multiple tribes. Tribal consultation for the Monument is undertaken with 26 tribal entities, including the three federally recognized Ute tribes, the Navajo Nation, the Jicarilla Apache, and 21 different Puebloan tribes. Archaeological surveys show extensive use of the land within the Monument by ancient Native American cultures and as a contact point for multiple Pueblos, Ute bands, Navajo and Jicarilla Apache and cultural sites within the Monument include traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, and cultural landscapes. Prehistoric archaeological sites include rock art panels, occupation sites, campsites, and granaries. In addition, local ranching as a major focus of area livelihood and increased settlement dates back to the late 1800s, and continues to be an important cultural bond of local communities and families in the CANM area though the economic importance has diminished.

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### *Land Management Tradeoffs*

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<sup>3</sup> BLM measures an AUM as the amount of forage needed to sustain one cow and her calf, one domestic horse, or 5 sheep or goats for one month. <https://www.blm.gov/programs/natural-resources/rangelands-and-grazing/livestock-grazing/fecs-and-distribution>.

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